

DON'T FORGET...



June 27, 2021
Pastor Daniel Hahn

MESSAGE NOTES

1. We thrive in our life when we keep God central, no matter what.

What comes to mind when we think about God is the most important thing about us. — AW Tozer

Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes. — Matthew 6:33 – 34

The main thing about Christianity is not the work we do, but the relationship we maintain and the atmosphere produced by that relationship. That is all God asks us to look after, and it is the one thing that is being continually assailed. — Oswald Chambers, My Utmost for His Highest

Prayer is a moment of incarnation — God with us. God involved in the details of my life. ... Self-will and prayer are both ways of getting things done. At the center of self-will is me, carving a world in my image, but at the center of prayer is God, carving me in His Son's image. — Paul E. Miller, A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World

2. Suffering is the gift no one wants — yet it is where so much good is birthed.

Suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character: ... — Romans 5:3 – 4

My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness. — 2 Corinthians 12:9

According to Scripture, God is altogether good and is always out for our good, even when we don't understand it. We never know why anything happens to us. All these things are beyond our grasp. But one day we will understand. All the judgments of God will be clearly fair. Jesus experienced suffering. He understands. God's goodness isn't determined by my judgment. My disappointments with God tell about me, not Him. — James Bryan Smith, The Good and Beautiful God

3. Everything we have, every accomplishment, every day, every breath, is just pure grace.

*David's life is characterized by God's mercy, God's grace, God's love. There's no moral or spiritual symmetry between David and God; it's totally lopsided on the side of God. Unknown David is named and known. Unequipped David is triumphant. Undefended David finds refuge. Undeserving David is forgiven. Unworthy David recovers his kingship. The David story is a gospel story, God doing for David what David could never do for himself. A sinner saved. It's a story that gets completed in the Jesus story, which features God seeking out the sick, the rejected, and the lost.
— Eugene Peterson, Leap Over A Wall*

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet He did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. — Hebrews 4:14 – 16

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DISCUSSION

- Was there one thing that felt especially meaningful to you from the weekend service?
- Why do you think God repeatedly used a phrase like “do not forget...” or “be careful to remember...” so many times as recorded in Scripture?
- What are some of the ways David expressed his intimate relationship with God in the Psalms?
- How is it possible for God to be with us, but for us to not really be “with” Him?
- Are there ways you have personally struggled to be consciously “with” God (like a child with a father) rather than, say, doing things “for” God or wanting things “from” God?
- What are the practical implications of Matthew 6:33 – 34 from your perspective?
- What do we mean by a settled theology of suffering? Why is that so important?
- How do you think God’s power is perfected in our weakness and suffering (2 Corinthians 12:9)?
- What does Hebrews 4:14 – 16 mean to you personally and how do you apply it practically?
- Are there ways that God’s grace keeps on amazing you?
- What were those three things not to forget?